

## Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EUR-25 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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R 011526Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8793

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3083

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, SOCI

SUBJ: MORE ON COMMITTEE FOR PEACE

REF: SANTIAGO 3019 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY. MEMBER EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE FOR PEACE TOLD EMBOFF MORNING MAY 31 THAT RECENT PROBLEMS RELATING TO COMMITTEE BEST SEEN IN PERSPECTIVE OF ONGOING CONSERVATIVE CRITICISM OF CARDINAL SILVA AND LIBERAL ELEMENTS OF CHURCH. IN HIS VIEW CAMPAIGN AGAINST COMMITTEE NOT BEING SPONSORED BY JUNTA. TO THE CONTRARY JUNTA ANXIOUS TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH CHURCH AND WITH COMMITTEE, WHICH HAS SUBSTANTIAL UNPUBLISHED EVIDENCE OF GOC HUMAN RIGHTS MISDEEDS. GOVT COOPERATING WITH COMMITTEE, AND AMOUNT OF TORTURE HAS DIMINISHED BUT IS CONTINUING. END SUMMARY.

2. RABBI ANGEL KREIMAN, MEMBER FOUR-MAN EXECUTIVE BOARD OF COMMITTEE FOR PEACE (OTHER MEMBERS ARE CATHOLIC BISHOP ARIZTIA, LUTHERAN BISHOP FRENZ AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JESUIT FERNANDO SALAS) BRIEFED EMBOFF MORNING MAY 31 ON RECENT TURMOIL ABOUT COMMITTEE'S WORK PROMPTED BY "LA SEGUNDA" DIATRIBES CONCERNING CONFIDENTIAL

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SCHERER'S "EXCELSIOR" PIECES (SANTIAGO 2712, 2773, 2956). KREIMAN

STATED UPROAR MUST BE VIEWED IN CONTEXT OF ONGOING CRITICISM OF ACTIONS OF CATHOLIC CHURCH LIEBERALS AND, IN PARTICULAR, OF SANTIAGO'S

ARCHBISHOP RAUL CARDINAL SILVA.

3. KREIMAN STATED DRIVING FORCE BEHIND CAMPAIGN AGAINST COMMITTEE HAS BEEN "LA SEGUNDA" EDITOR MARIO CARNEYRO, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS UNTRACONSERVATIVE, AND WHO HAS SENT HIM MESSAGE SUGGESTING HE RESIGN FROM COMMITTEE. KREIMAN SAID HE HAS NO INTENTION OF RESIGNING. KREIMAN HAS SPOKEN AT LENGTH WITH "EL MERCURIO" EDITOR-IN-CHIEF SILVA, WHOM HE VIEWS AS A MODERATE MAN BUT WHO LACKS AUTHORITY OVER CARNEYRO THOUGH BOTH PAPERS OWNED BY SAME COMPANY.

4. DESPITE PRESS CRITICISM, KREIMAN CONVINCED COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AND RECEIVE GOC ASSISTANCE. CONFIDENCE BASED ON HIS FIRM BELIEF THAT JUNTA HAS NO DESIRE TO ENTER INTO OPEN CONFRONTATION WITH CATHOLIC CHURCH OR WITH COMMITTEE. THE LATTER HAS CERTAIN MANIPULATIVE POWER OF ITS OWN BY VIRTUE OF ITS EXTENSIVE UNPUBLISHED FILES CATALOGING TORTURE AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, HE INDICATED.

5. ACCORDING TO KREIMAN, SUMMARIES OF COMMITTEE'S FILES INCLUDING EYEWITNESS OR FIRST-PERSON TESTIMONIES OF TORTURE OF OVER 3,000 INDIVIDUALS MADE AVAILABLE TO CATHOLIC BISHOPS AT PUNTA DE TRALCA CONFERENCE AND RESULTED IN BISHOPS' POST-EASTER HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT (SANTIAGO 2212). KREIMAN CONTENDS IT WAS PROBABLY ONE OF DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED AT THAT MEETING WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY LEAKED TO SCHERER.

6. RABBI NOTED THAT MIN INTERIOR BONILLA MAINTAINS GOOD WORKING RELATIONS WITH COMMITTEE AND MEETS ALMOST DAILY WITH EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SALAS, WHO PRESENTS HIM WITH REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT MISSING OR DETAINED INDIVIDUALS. BONILLA GENERALLY RESPONDS TO SUCH REQUESTS WITHIN SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, NOTING INDIVIDUAL'S PLACE OF DETENTION AND CHARGES OR SUSPICIONS AGAINST HIM. SALAS ALSO PRESENTS BONILLA WITH EVIDENCE RELATING TO TORTURE. KREIMAN ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE MINISTER'S RESPONSES TO SUCH CHARGES ARE GENERALLY INSUFFICIENT, BUT HE BELIEVES COMMITTEE'S CONTINUING PRESSURE HAS RESULTED IN WHAT HE REFERRED TO AS MORE "CIVILIZED" CONFIDENTIAL

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TORTURE PROCEDURES, IN WHICH EXCESSES SUCH AS THOSE MENTIONED BY SCHERER IN HIS "EXCELSIOR" ARTICLES (E.G. RAPE, MULTILATION) HAVE TERMINATED. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, KREIMAN SAID THAT HE KNEW OF "A FEW CASES" IN WHICH MILITARY MEN HAVE BEEN PUNISHED FOR "EXCESSIVE" OR "SADISTIC" USE OF TORTURE.

7. MAY 31 "MERCURIO" CARRIED STRAIGHTFORWARD ARTICLE REPORTING THAT LUTHERAN MINISTERS ASSOCIATED WITH COMMITTEE HAVE REFUSED TO

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TO REQUESTS TO RESIGN FROM SOME LUTHERN LAYMEN ASSOCIATED WITH COMMITTEE. KREIMAN STATED THAT RESIGNATIONS REPORTED IN "LA SEGUNDA" (SANTIAGO 3019) ARE UNIMPORTANT AND THAT COMMITTEE HAS LOST NO SIGNIFICANT MEMBERSHIP OR POWER. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MAY 30, JESUIT SALAS STATED THAT THERE WAS A CONCERTED CAMPAIGN TO DIVIDE PROTESTANTS AND CATHOLIC MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE. KREIMAN BELIEVES THAT THIS IS SO FAR LARGELY INEFFECTIVE. RABBI REPORTED THAT CARDINAL SILVA WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH COMMITTEE

MAY 31 (LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER RETURN FROM ROME), AND THAT HE MIGHT WELL ISSUE STRONG ENDORSEMENT OF COMMITTEE'S WORK.

8. COMMENT. KREIMAN'S PLACING OF COMMITTEE FOR PEACE DISPUTE IN CONTEXT OF ONGOING CHURCH PROBLEMS SEEMS TO US VALID. EMPHASIS ON ROLE OF CONSERVATIVE MARIO CARNEYRO IN PROMOTING PROBLEMS FOR COMMITTEE IS ALSO PROBABLY ACCURATE. WHAT IS UNKNOWN, HOWEVER, IS WHO, IF ANYBODY, WITHIN THE GOVT, BE IT MILITARY OR CIVILIAN, IS SUPPORTING THE POLEMIC. ONE POSSIBILITY IS THAT CARNEYRO HAS TACIT OR ACTIVE SUPPORT OF FAR-RIGHT CIVILIAN JUNTA ADVISERS SUCH AS ALVARO PUGA, WHO USING PRESS TO GENERATE PUBLIC APPROVAL FOR VIEWS THEY PRIVATELY PRESENT WITHIN GOVT BUREAUCRACY. POPPER

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